

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## TWO LINCOLN SCHOOLS, OMAHA SCHOOL NAMED NATIONAL 2016 GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS

Prescott Elementary School in Lincoln, Irving Middle School in Lincoln and the Alfonza W. Davis Middle School in Omaha were named today U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools.

Managing Director of the White House Council on Environmental Quality Christy Goldfuss joined U.S. Secretary of Education John King for the announcement.

The Nebraska Department of Education nominated the three schools.

In total, across the country, 47 schools, 15 districts, and 11 postsecondary institutions are being honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and ensure effective sustainability education. King and Goldfuss made the announcement at the U.S. Department of Education, in Washington, DC.

The schools, districts, and postsecondary institutions were confirmed from a pool of candidates voluntarily nominated by 27 state education agencies. The list of 73 total selectees includes 41 public schools and six private schools. The public schools include three charter and eight magnet schools. The schools serve various grade levels, including 27 elementary, 18 middle, and 14 high schools, with several schools having various K-12 configurations. Fifty-one percent of the 2016 honorees serve a disadvantaged student body.

More information on the federal recognition award can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Resources for all schools to move toward the three Pillars can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

## [A Note on Our Name

ED's award is called "U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools" and has "District Sustainability Award" and "Postsecondary Sustainability Award" categories, in addition to the original school award. It is abbreviated ED-GRS. "Green Ribbon Schools" without the "U.S. Department of Education" is not ED's award, but instead is a separate program overseen by another organization. A selected school is a "Year U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School." A selected district is a "Year U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools District Sustainability Awardee." A selected postsecondary institution is a "Year U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Postsecondary Sustainability Awardee. There is no "National," "Award," or "Program" in the title. There is no apostrophe or hyphen after Education.]